

# Church of Christ

## Deer Park

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER  
APRIL 5, 2026  
VOLUME 59 ISSUE 13

### Rules Without Relationship Lead to Rebellion

#### Prayer Page

*"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."* Romans 12:12

#### Daily BIBLE

#### Reading Schedule

#### Birthdays & Anniversaries

#### Ladies Pillow Ministry & Devo

Tuesdays 9:00 to 11:00

#### Facebook Page

Church of Christ  
Deer Park, Texas



#### Web Site - [dpcofc.org](http://dpcofc.org)

I was listening to a family therapist being interviewed on the radio the other day. In the course of the program, I heard her use a phrase that really made me think. She said, "Rules without relationship lead to rebellion." The more I thought about that statement, the more I realized how true it was. Think about it – every family has rules. Why is it, then, that some children rebel and some do not?

Could it be that no matter how many or few rules there are, if a child's relationship with their parents is bad, then it is very likely they will rebel? I think so. Rules mean little without relationship.

Could it also be true that some children remain obedient and respectful to parents, not because of lack of rules, but because their relationship with their parents is so close that they are willing to obey whatever rules that family has? Again, I think so. With true love comes true respect.

Now, let's take this one step further. Could it be that some Christians "rebel" against their heavenly Father simply because they never develop a close, loving relationship with Him? Sadly, I think so. These people resent His will, which like earthly parents', is intended for their own good. To them, following God's "rules" are grievous.

Could it also be that some children of God remain obedient and reverent to their Father in heaven and, as a result, are willing to obey whatever commands He has for them? I know so. Those who grow and mature in the faith and continually increase their love for God will not see His commands as burdensome (Matt. 11:30), but rather will be happy to do them.

Maybe we could extend the saying to this: "Rules without relationship lead to rebellion, but rules with relationship lead to respect."

It is very important that we check our relationship with God. What is our attitude toward His will? Please carefully and prayerfully read 1 John 3:1-24.

Edd Sterchi  
Broadway church of Christ  
Campbellsville, KY

#### FIRST AID AWARENESS

Pick up an **Emergency Medical Card**  
(Graciously provided by Jerry Goucher)  
The first thing EMT's asked for was a list of  
medicines the patient was on.  
**PICK UP YOURS NOW**



Anyone interested in free  
Bible Correspondence  
Course contact  
the Office.  
Beside World Bible  
School we have J.M Hurt  
& H to H series.

*"...but in everything by prayer and supplication  
with thanksgiving let your requests  
be made known unto God." Philippians 4:6*

### Prayer Needs and Requests

Our Country & Our National Leaders look to & be guided by God;  
God Bless & protect President Trump & God Bless the United States  
of America; People of Israel & Ukraine; Hill Country Flood Victims;  
Pray for things going on in Iran; Dennis Gray was admitted to  
Bayshore 4/1 with heart issues; Jason Mining - medical checkups  
involving heart issues; O'Bannon Family in the loss of their Mother  
and Grandmother, Steve Deviller (Jerry Goucher friend) wife passed  
recently; Yvonne DeMasters (Rosa Reeves & Jerry Goucher niece)  
lost her husband earlier this year & is having health issues; Eileen  
Adair got a clean bill of health & was at Ladies Class Tuesday; Patsy  
Camp is home from the hospital, she did not have a stroke; Noah  
Mining is on the USS Bush & was deployed for the middle east 3/31;  
Billy O'Bannon continues to recover; Dale Guillory is having trouble  
with his feet; Mike Reed fell off ladder and crushed both heels 3/12 -  
had surgery 3/24 & moved to Park Manor South Belt 3/27 for rehab;  
Autum Richter (Debby Mining friend) facing back surgery; Cheryl  
McKinney (Tammy Imel sister-in-law) lost vision in her eye-AND  
NOW THERE IS GREAT NEWS-there has been improvement & doc-  
tors now believe she will get her sight back; Graham Mooney (friend  
Jerry Goucher) had AFib ablation; Tina Legende (Tammy Imel friend)  
broke her foot & had surgery 3/2 & starts rehab 3/19; Debbie Wil-  
liams (Gene & Nancy Barton's daughter) health issues; Eliza Whit-  
comb - health issues; Lynda Goucher (Jerry Goucher & Rosa  
Reeves sister-in-law) AFib issues; Terry Knight has tumor - testing  
(Dale Guillory friend); Jimmy Burke chronic weakness; Sandra Burke  
(Jimmy & Peggy sister-in-law) has been diagnosed with sarcoidosis  
& will continue seeing doctors for plan forward in addition to kidney  
function problems & is undergoing more tests at the present; Stepha-  
ny Plank-breast cancer; Maurene Martin-colon cancer; Charlott Wag-  
ner still needs our prayers (all friends of Dale Guillory); Building Pro-  
gram; Inmates of our Prison Ministry (601 Inmate students); Be  
THANKFUL for our MANY BLESSINGS; Share the Gospel of Jesus;  
Remember God is in Control; A Faithful God Deserves Praise; Are  
We Faithful to Him?; PUT GOD FIRST!; God Keeps His Promises;  
Produce Much Fruit; Be Present; Hallelujah! What a Savior!; Ask for  
Wisdom; Give; Commit; Let Your Light Shine; FEAR GOD! Practice  
Our Christianity Daily; Be THANKFUL for our MANY BLESSINGS;  
We must hear The Word to be saved - DEVOUR THE WORD; Hun-  
ger for God's Word & Read It Daily; Listen; Keep Our Eyes on Heav-  
en; Love Our Neighbor; Be rich toward God; Actions Speak Louder;



To the **O'Bannon Family**  
In the loss of their Mother, Grandmother,  
Our Friend & Sister in Christ

### **Betty O'Bannon**

who passed into the arms of her Savior 3/26/2026.  
In accordance with Betty's wishes,  
there will be no funeral service.

Jesus said, "Do you love me?"; Earnestly seek our God!;  
Come, great is the Lord and most worthy of our praise;  
Pray Without Ceasing for Each Other; Serve Others; Deny  
Self & not be Mere Human; Breathe the Spirit of God; Ex-  
citement & Enthusiasm for the Lord ; Pray That We Know  
God's Word & Live It & Put it into Practice; Us all as we  
strive to be better Servants for the Lord, Share Our Lord

### Continual Prayers

Eileen Adair; Adair Family; Gene Barton (Nancy Barton's hus-  
band); Diane Bowman (Tammy Imel friend); Gina Branstetter;  
Carole Broyles; David & Patsy Camp; Deanna & Norman Cox  
(Carole Broyles sister & brother-in-law); Louise Friday; Pat &  
Hugh Fletcher; Deavyn Gordon; Dennis & Mary Gray; Joyce  
Gray (mother of Dennis Gray); Dale Guillory; Nalin Hayter; My-  
ra Higgins and her granddaughters-Alysa & Samantha Higgins;  
Marion Hood (aunt of Shannon Burke); Justin Imel health is-  
sues; Summer Imel (Justin & Tammy Imel niece); Pat Jackson  
& Norma McBride (Peggy Burke friends); Copper Kimbrough  
(husband Avery Cable Kimbrough); Bill Lawrence (Mary Miller  
brother); Glenda Peters; Bernice Reed; Brandon Reed; Kenny  
Reed; Robert Reed; Mike Reed; George & Karen Revez (Dale  
Guillory friends); Jeff Riggs (Kay Riggs son); Mike Ritter; Bobby  
Rowan; Johnny Salas; Andrew Shirley (Scott & Erin Burke Son-  
in-law) heart issues; Jim & Linda Thomason; Lara Tucker  
(Nancy Barton niece), Sheri & Bruce Williams (Dale Guillory's  
sister); Susan Williams, Karl Vinson

### Please Remember These Battling Cancer

Tammy Adair; Amy Cote (O'Bannon & Burke friend); Gerald  
Elliott; Mother of Mrs. Farris (Gina Branstetter friend);  
Frances (Sonoma O'Bannon friend); Roseann Hudoba; Betty  
Hunt (Tammy Imel sister-in-law's mother) Nathan Lunday-  
prostate cancer & Tracy Park (Dale Guillory friends); Can-  
dice Rudolph (Shannon Burke friend); Jess Williams (Nancy  
Barton son-in-law)



**SPRING CHILDREN'S PILLOWS**  
 have been distributed to:  
**NEXT LEVEL URGENT CARE**  
**AFC URGENT CARE &**  
**THE BRIDGE**



*Ladies' Class & Pillow Ministry*  
**Every Tuesday**  
**9:00 - 11:30 am**  
 Tuesday Mornings - Devo & Pillows  
 9:00 to 11:30AM - Stay as long as  
 you can.



**Daily Bible Reading**  
**April 5 - April 11**

Sun 5	am	Judges 15-17
	pm	Luke 10:1-24
Mon 6	am	Judges 18-19
	pm	Luke 10:25-42
Tues 7	am	Judges 20-21
	pm	Luke 11:1-28
Wed 8	am	Ruth 1-4
	pm	Luke 11:29-54
Thur 9	pm	I Samuel 1-3
	pm	Luke 12:1-34
Fri 10	am	I Samuel 4-6
	pm	Luke 12:35-59
Sat 11	am	I Samuel 7-9
	pm	Luke 13:1-21

**APRIL Birthdays**

Chad Burke	4
Tammy Imel	10
Dale Guillory	28

**APRIL Anniversaries**

Sam & Debby Mining	4
Randy & Tammy Adair	16

## The Bible's Nature in Divine Communication

(Part 1 - Continued next week)

By Daniel Gaines | WBS OCEAN BRIDGE ENVOY

There are moments in life when we are desperate for God to speak. We don't always say it out loud, but the cry is there. A mother sits beside her child's hospital bed before a major surgery, holding a small hand and wondering what the next few hours will bring. A missionary listens to a new widow in an African slum and searches for words of comfort. A preacher looks out into the eyes of his congregation on a Sunday morning and feels the weight of knowing that human wisdom is not enough. In moments like these, the unspoken cry is, "Lord, please speak." But He has!

God has spoken in ways that a child can memorize, and a theologian can spend a lifetime trying to fully grasp. He has spoken through a book, or more accurately, through a collection of books. However, the Bible is not some random archive or anthology of man's spiritual musings. It is God's own complete revelation of His will to man.

Every verse is true, but no single verse stands alone like a lighthouse on some isolated rock. Rather, each one must be understood in harmony with the whole. If we want to hear the voice of the living God, we must listen to the whole symphony, not merely a single note. That symphony, composed by God, was played out by his chosen instruments, inspired men living in the real world and rooted in real cultures. The languages is not of this revelation, Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek, were not celestial tongues unknown to mankind. They were the everyday speech of farmers, merchants, soldiers and scribes. Much like Jesus took on flesh and walked dusty roads, so God's message clothed itself in the expressions, idioms, and writing styles of ancient peoples. Divine truth steeped into human language.

This does not weaken the Bible's authority; it deepens it. God could have given us a book so transcendent that no mortal could grasp it. Instead, He gave us a revelation that can be translated into hundreds of languages and understood by men and women in every corner of the world. Yet because Scripture came through revelations stretched out over centuries, God did not give us a single tidy volume laid out in topical or chronological sequence.

He gave us a library, sixty-six books, to be exact. Genesis reads nothing like the Gospel of John, and the thunderous tone of Isaiah bears little resemblance to the pastoral warmth of Philippians. God's messages came in stories and songs, laws and letters, prayers and parables, warnings and promises. Each book must be studied and understood according to its genre of literature, whether that be history, law, prophecy, wisdom literature, poetry, narrative, parable, apocalypse or epistle. A proverb must be heard differently from a prophecy. A lament psalm must be interpreted in a different light than a legal statute. A parable is not a scientific diagram. An apocalyptic vision is not a newspaper article. God invites His people not simply to read, but to study. (Part 2 Continued Next week)

**READ**  
*your*  
**BIBLE**  
**EVERYDAY**

Study God's Word





**Church of Christ Deer Park**  
**617 Avon Street**  
**Deer Park, TX 77536**



*Church Of Christ Deer Park*  
*Invites you to join us in Worship!*

We are located at:

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Facebook Page:

Church of Christ Deer Park,  
 Texas

*Meet With Us*

**Sunday Morning**

Coffee & Donut Fellowship	9:00am
Bible Class	9:30am
Morning Worship	10:30am

**Wednesday Evening**

Bible Class	6:30pm
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*Serving this Week:*

**April 5, 2026**

**Donut Fellowship 9:00am**

**Bible Class 9:30am**

**Worship 10:30am**

*Song Leader:* **Dennis Gray**

*Scripture Reading & Prayer:*  
**John 3:16-17**

*Prayers & Thoughts for the Lord's Supper:*

*Sermon:* **"God's Precious Message"**  
**Dr. Justin Imel**

*Closing Payer:*

*Greeter:* **Eileen & Tammy Adair**

*Communion Prep:* **Sam & Debby Mining**

*Livestreaming:* **R.J. Imel & Jerry Goucher**

Stay tuned to our Tithely Messages,  
 Email Messages, Everything happening on  
 Facebook Page:

Church of Christ Deer Park, Texas  
 & our Web Site: [dpcofc.org](http://dpcofc.org)

**REMEMBER**



**WEDNESDAY 6:30 pm**

**REMEMBER WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY:** I am blessed to be with brethren. I am blessed to serve. I am blessed to learn from others. I am blessed to hear the Word of Life. I am blessed to remember what's important. I am blessed to recharge my spirit. I am blessed to correct my life. We look forward to seeing you Wednesday!